

LETTER FORMATION AND HANDWRITING



Writing Progression Map

Letter-formation scripts

In Reception, children should be taught the print formation of lower-case and capital letters, with clear start and finish points. The following letter formation scripts can be used to support the correct modelling to children.

Lower-case letters

s I go up and over the hill from right to left. I curl around like a snake (which sits on a writing line).	p I start in the middle and go straight down through the writing line. Then I go straight back up to form a half bridge, which curves round to form a bowl (and sits on the writing line).	u I start in the middle and go straight down then curl to form a bowl sitting on the writing line. I go back up to half-height, then straight back down to the writing line and flick.	x I form a diagonal line similar to the first line of the /v/. I take my pencil off and start on the bottom writing line to form a diagonal up to half-height which crosses the first line.
a I go up and over the hill from right to left and curl around. I straighten up to catch the hook, then go straight down, and flick.	n I start in the middle and go straight down to the line. Then I go straight back up to form a full bridge, then flick.	r I start in the middle and go straight down to the line. I go back up to form a half bridge.	y I go straight down and curl to form a bowl sitting on the writing line. I go back up to half-height, then straight back down through the writing line. Then I curl to make a tail below the writing line from right to left.
t I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line and flick. I take my pencil off. I cross the stick from left to right (just above the half-way point).	m I start in the middle and go straight down to the line. Then I go back up to form a full bridge, then another bridge, then flick.	h I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I go back up (to half-height) to form a full bridge, then flick.	z I start in the middle and form a short straight line across from left to right. Then I form a diagonal line back down to the line. Then, I form another short straight line across from left to right (which is along the bottom writing line).
i I start in the middle, go straight down to the line and flick. Then I take my pencil off and put a little dot above the stick.	d I go up and over the hill from right to left, and curl around. I straighten up to catch the hook, then keep going straight up (to just below the top writing line) to make a tall letter. Then I go straight back down (to the bottom writing line) and flick.	b I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I go back up (to half-height) to form half a bridge then curve to meet the bottom of the stick.	q I go up and over the hill from right to left, and curl around. I straighten up to catch the hook, then go straight down through the writing line. I kick back at the bottom with a short diagonal tail.
g I go up and over the hill from right to left, and curl around. I straighten up to catch the hook, then go straight down through the writing line. I curl to make a tail below the writing line (from right to left).	f Starting tall, I go up and over the hill from right to left, then I go straight down through the writing line. I curl to make a tail below the writing line from right to left (like the /g/). I take my pencil off and draw a short straight line across.		
o I go up and over the hill from right to left, then curl right around to form a circle (which sits on the writing line).	l I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom writing line, and flick.		
c I start in the middle and go up and over the hill from right to left, and curl around (to sit on the line).	j I go straight down through the writing line. Then I curl to make a tail below the writing line from right to left (like the /g/ and /t/). Then I take my pencil off and put a little dot above the stick.		
k I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I go back up (to half-height) to form half a bridge then turn it into a bow shape, like this.	v I start in the middle and form a single zigzag which sits on the writing line.		
e I set off from left to right then sweep round, over the hill from right to left and curl around (to sit on the writing line).	w I start in the middle and form a double zigzag which sits on the writing line.		

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Writing Progression Map

Capital letters

All capital letters are tall and sit on the writing line.

S

I go up and over the hill from right to left. I curl around like a snake (which sits on a writing line).

D

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line. I lift my pencil off, start at the top and form a curve down to the writing line.

R

I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I lift my pencil off, go back to the top and form a small loop back to the middle of the line. Then I draw a diagonal line to the writing line.

V

I start at the top and form a single zigzag which sits on the writing line.

A

I start at the top and draw a diagonal line down to the left. I lift my pencil off, go back to the top and draw a diagonal line down to the right. Then I lift my pencil off and draw a straight line from left to right.

G

I go up and over the hill from right to left, then curl right around (to sit on the writing line). I bend around and go a little way up, then finish off with a short straight line across from left to right.

H

I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I lift my pencil off, leave a gap and start again at the top to go straight down to the bottom line. Then I lift my pencil off and form a line across the middle from left to right.

W

I start at the top and form a double zigzag which sits on the writing line.

T

I start at the top and draw a straight line from left to right. I find the middle of the line and draw a line straight down (to the writing line).

O

I go up and over the hill from right to left, then curl right around to form a circle (which sits on the writing line).

B

I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I lift my pencil off, start back at the top and form a loop to the mid-point and a loop to the bottom.

X

I form a diagonal line similar to the first line of the /v/. I take my pencil off and start on the bottom writing line to form a diagonal up to the top which crosses the first line.

I

I start at the top and draw a short straight line from left to right. I take my pencil off, find the middle of the line, and draw a straight line down. I take my pencil off and draw a straight line from left to right.

C

I start at the top and go up and over the hill from right to left, and curl around (to sit on the line).

F

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line. Then I lift my pencil off and go across at the top in a straight line from left to right, and again in the middle with a shorter straight line from left to right.

Y

I start at the top and form a diagonal down to the mid-point. I take my pencil off, leave a space and form another diagonal down from the top to the mid-point. Then I go straight down from the mid-point to the bottom writing line.

P

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line. I lift my pencil off and start back at the top to form a loop from left to right which curls under and stops at the mid-point.

K

I start at the top and go straight down to the bottom line. I lift my pen off, find the middle of the line and go out and up in a diagonal line. Then I lift my pencil off, go back to the middle and go out and down in a diagonal line.

L

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line, then go across in a straight line from left to right.

Z

I start at the top and form a short straight line across from left to right. Then I form a diagonal line back down to the line. Then, I form another short straight line across from left to right (which is along the bottom writing line).

N

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line. I lift my pencil off and draw a diagonal line down from left to right. I keep my pencil on the page and draw a line straight up to the top.

E

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line, then go across from left to right in a straight line. Then I lift my pencil off and go across at the top in a straight line from left to right, and again in the middle with a shorter straight line from left to right.

J

I start at the top and draw a line from left to right. I take my pencil off, find the middle of the line, then go straight down and curl around from right to left to form a tail that sits on the writing line.

Q

I go up and over the hill from right to left, then curl right around to form a circle (which sits on the writing line). Then I lift my pen off and form a short straight diagonal line through the bottom right of the circle.

M

I start at the top and go straight down to the writing line. I lift my pencil off, go back to the top and draw a zigzag down to the line and back up, then I draw a straight line down (back to the writing line).

U

I start at the top and go straight down then curl to form a bowl sitting on the writing line.